GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2853
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2007
SURVEY ON LEPROSY PATIENTS
Mondal Shri Abu Ayes

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted regarding leprosy patients in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT.PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) Leprosy is a disease which is more predominant among illiterate people and people belonging to lower socio-economic status. Under National Leprosy Eradication Programme, information is collected from the states on the number of female cases, SC and ST cases detected among the new cases which is further compiled at national level.

Data shows that during last 3 years the proportion of female cases among new cases were 34% SC cases were 18.6% and ST cases were 11.7%. However no information is collected from the states on illiteracy and unemployment among leprosy patients nor any survey has been conducted in this regard.

(c) Government of India is implementing the National Leprosy Eradication Programme with following components- a. Decentralized integrated Leprosy Services through General Health Care System.

b. Timely diagnosis & prompt treatment with Multi-Drug Therapy.

c. Intensified Information, Education & Communication (IEC) using local & mass media with emphasis to vulnerable populations.

d. Training of General Health Care Staff in management of Leprosy.

e. Prevention of Disability and Medical Rehabilitation care.

f. Intensified Monitoring & Evaluation of programme through Management Information System & Independent Evaluation.